

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of ) Attorney Docket No.: **ASAIN0188**  
Kazuhiko KATSUMATA )  
Serial No.: Unassigned ) Confirmation No.: Unassigned  
Filed: September 18, 2006 ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
For: DOUBLE-CHAMBER TYPE HEAT- ) Examiner: Unassigned  
TREATING FURNACE ) Date: September 18, 2006  
 )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (A)**

**MAIL STOP: PCT**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, and preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the application identified above as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.